On page 11, line 4, after "distinguishes" insert --as determined at step--.

On page 11, line 7, after "one" insert --at step--.

On page 11, line 9, after "assigned" insert --at step--.

On page 11, line 10, before "324" insert --at step--.

On page 11, line 11, before "326" insert --at step--.

On page 11, line 17, before "328" insert --at step--.

On page 11, line 18, before "330" insert --at terminal--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1   1.   (Twice Amended) A computer implemented method of [assigning each
2   of two or more intelligent agents to one of a plurality of mutually exclusive groups
3   of tasks, the method] providing a graphical user interface agent to a user
4   performing a task in a computer system comprising a processor, an operating
5   system, memory, and a plurality of intelligent agents, comprising the steps of:

6   receiving data assessing at least two user assessment variables for each of a
7   [said] plurality of tasks;

8   performing multivariate analysis on said data to derive from said plurality of
9   tasks at least as many mutually exclusive clusters of tasks as there are
10   intelligent agents to assign;

11   storing an association linking each of said intelligent agents with one of said
12   mutually exclusive clusters; and

13   [launching an intelligent agent for a task chosen for execution by a user]
14   upon user selection of a task, displaying an intelligent agent associated
15   with a cluster containing the task selected by the user.

2   006372.00192:0094433.01

1   5.   (Twice Amended) A system for [storing an association between each

2 of two or more intelligent agents and one of a plurality of mutually exclusive groups

3 of computer implemented tasks, the] providing a graphical user interface agent to a

4 user performing a task on a computer system comprising a processor means,

5 storage means and input/output means, and a plurality of intelligent agents, the

6 system comprising:

7   means for receiving data assessing at least two user assessment variables

8   for each of [said] a plurality of tasks;

9   means for performing multivariate statistical analysis on said data to

10   determine at least as many statistically distinct groups of tasks as

11   there are intelligent agents to assign;

12   means for storing in said storage means an association linking each of said

13   intelligent agents with one of said statistically distinct [clusters]

14   groups; and

15   [subsequently providing a linked intelligent agent when a user executes a

16   task] means, operable upon user selection of a task, for displaying an

17   intelligent agent associated with a group of tasks containing the task

18   selected by the user.

3   006372.00192:0094433.01

1   8.   (Twice Amended) A computer program product including a computer
2 readable medium having computer program logic recorded thereon for use in a data
3 processing system for providing a graphical user interface agent to a user
4 performing a task [associating each of two or more intelligent agents with one of a
5 plurality of mutually exclusive groups of computer implemented tasks, said
6 computer program product] comprising:

7   means for receiving data assessing at least two user assessment variables
8   for each of said tasks;

9   means for performing multivariate statistical analysis on said data to
10   determine at least as many statistically distinct clusters of tasks as
11   there are intelligent agents to assign;

12   means for storing in said storage means an association linking each of said
13   intelligent agents with one of said statistically distinct clusters; and

14   means for [launching] displaying an intelligent agent using [an appropriate] a
15   stored association [wherein] when a user of said [dp] data processing
16   system executes a task from one of said statistically distinct clusters.

REMARKS

Applicant's attorney thanks the examiner for his courtesy and helpfulness during their phone conversation on October 4, 1999.

The present invention relates to a method for assigning a graphical user interface (GUI) agent to guide the user through a particular task. The assignment is carried out by the inventive method, which uses cluster analysis to optimally determine what kind of GUI agent (guide or wizard or none) is best suited for assisting a user in accomplishing a user chosen task. In the preferred embodiment, the inventive method analyzes a set of user task characteristics. Clusters, based on

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